

FORM PTO-1390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO. PHD 99,060
TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES DESIGNED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US) CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371		U.S. Application No. (if known, see 37 CFR 1.5) 09/743656
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. PCT/EP00/04607	INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE MAY 17, 2000	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED MAY 18, 1999
TITLE OF INVENTION SENSOR MATRIX		
APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US FALKO BUSSE, MICHAEL OVERDICK, WALTER RUTTEN, MARTIN JOHN POWELL		
Applicant(s) herewith submit to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) the following items and other information:		
<p>1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>2. <input type="checkbox"/> This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371.</p> <p>3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> This express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C. 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).</p> <p>4. <input type="checkbox"/> A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the 19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.</p> <p>5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2))</p> <p>a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> has been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US).</p> <p>6. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2))</p> <p>7. <input type="checkbox"/> Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3))</p> <p>a. <input type="checkbox"/> are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Bureau).</p> <p>b. <input type="checkbox"/> have been transmitted by the International Bureau.</p> <p>c. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired.</p> <p>d. <input type="checkbox"/> have not been made and will not be made.</p> <p>8. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the amendment to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)).</p> <p>9. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)).</p> <p>10. <input type="checkbox"/> A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)).</p> <p>Items 11, to 16, below concern document(s) or information included:</p> <p>11. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98.</p> <p>12. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 C.F.R. 3.28 and 3.31 is included.</p> <p>13. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A FIRST preliminary amendment.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> A SECOND OR SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.</p> <p>14. <input type="checkbox"/> A substitute specification.</p> <p>15. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.</p> <p>16. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other items or information:</p> <p><u>3</u> Sheets of Drawings</p> <p><u>X</u> Authorization Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a)(3) and to Charge Deposit Account</p>		

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

[X] Express Mail Mailing Label No. EL297132373US

Date of Deposit January 12, 2001

I hereby certify that this paper and fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Natalie a. Manzo
Typed Name

Natalie A. Manzo
Signature

09743656-060701

E:\WPDOCS\VO\MC07V0A0.MA0.doc

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

FALCO BUSSE ET AL.

PHD 99,060

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Examiner:

Title: SENSOR MATRIX

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 4, line 1, delete "or 3"

Claim 5, line 1, delete "or 4"

Claim 6, line 1, change "one of the Claims 3 to 5" to
--Claim 3--.Claim 7, line 1, change "one of the Claims 3 to 5" to
--Claim 3--.

09743656-000701

Claim 8, line 1, change "one of the Claims 3 to 5" to
--Claim 3--.

Claim 6, line 1, change "one of the Claims 1 to 5" to
--Claim 1--.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to delete multiple dependencies.

The within amendment is limited to the equivalent of cancellation of claims, and pursuant to MPEP §506, should be entered prior to calculation of the fee.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Michael E. Marion, Reg. 32,266
Attorney
(914) 333-9641
January 8, 2001

Sensor matrix.

The invention relates to an arrangement which includes light-sensitive or X-ray-sensitive sensors which are arranged in a matrix of rows and columns and generate charges in dependence on the amount of incident radiation, each sensor including a respective photosensor element with an intrinsic storage capacitance or a storage capacitor connected parallel to the terminals thereof, as well as with a respective transistor, for each row of sensors there being provided at least one switching line via which the transistors can be activated so that the charges of the relevant activated sensors S can be read out simultaneously via read-out lines 8. The invention also relates to a method for operating the arrangement.

An arrangement of the kind set forth is known from EP 0 440 282 A2. Only small X-ray doses are incident on the sensors, notably in the case of X-ray applications. Consequently, the electrical charge generated in the photosensor elements in dependence on the incident radiation is also very small. The small amounts of charge often give rise to problems, because a large amount of noise is superposed on the signal read out. In order to mitigate this problem, the single sensor of the arrangement disclosed in EP 0 440 282 A2 has an as large as possible sensitive surface area in order to enhance the radiation sensitivity. In order to realize such large surfaces areas, each read-out line of the matrix is provided with only one amplifier which serves to amplify the signals read out from all sensors of this column.

It is an object of the invention to provide an improved arrangement of the kind set forth and to propose a method for operating said arrangement. More specifically, depending on the mode of operation of the arrangement, the switching noise caused by the reading out of the sensors should be reduced and/or a higher image repeat rate, more stable operating conditions of the photosensor element, also in the case of large signals, as well as an increased dynamic range of the photosensor element should be possible.

The described object is achieved on the basis of the idea to provide a further transistor which can be driven independently of the first transistor and co-operates with an additional capacitor in each sensor.

More specifically, the object is achieved in an arrangement of the kind set forth in that each sensor includes a further transistor which is connected directly to the photosensor element and can be activated via at least one control line, that the two transistors of each sensor are connected in series, and that an electrode of a further capacitor is connected to the junction of the two transistors.

Both transistors of the sensor in a preferred embodiment of the invention are constructed as field effect transistors whose conductive channels are connected in series. Different modes of operation of the arrangement can be realized in dependence on the driving of the gate terminal of the field effect transistor connected to the photosensor element via the control line (control field effect transistor). The individual modes of operation follow from the method for operating the arrangements according to the invention as disclosed in the Claims 6 to 8.

The gate terminal of the field effect transistor (switching field effect transistor) which is connected in series with the control field effect transistor is connected in known manner to the switching line which is activated so as to read out the sensor.

In conformity with the known switching lines, for each row of sensors there may be provided at least one control line for controlling the further transistors, notably the control field effect transistors. However, it is alternatively possible to provide only one control line for driving all further transistors of the entire matrix.

For an effective reduction of the switching noise of the switching field effect transistor, in an embodiment of the invention the further capacitor is selected to be smaller than the intrinsic capacitance and/or the storage capacitor connected parallel to the photosensor element.

The constituent elements of each sensor can be arranged adjacently and/or one above the other on a thin-film substrate. The additional control field effect transistor may consist of amorphous silicon or polycrystalline silicon.

When the arrangement according to the invention operates in conformity with the characteristics of Claim 6, a continuous charge transfer to the further capacitor is achieved. When the voltage across the photosensor element is kept constant, the further capacitor is discharged instead of the storage capacitor when radiation is incident on the photosensor element. The term "charge pump" will be used hereinafter for this mode of operation of the control field effect transistor. Consequently, the further capacitor is charged again during the reading out via the read-out line. When the further capacitor is smaller than

the storage capacitor, the switching noise which is proportional to the magnitude of the capacitor read out is reduced.

Because the voltage across the photosensor element is kept constant, the operation of the photosensor element is stable even in the case of large signals, because it continuously operates at the same working point. Moreover, a larger dynamic range of the sensor is obtained when the maximum voltage swing across the further capacitor is suitably chosen.

Controlled charge transfer between the storage capacitor and the further capacitor can be achieved by operation of the arrangement according to the invention in conformity with the characteristics of Claim 7. In such a mode of operation the charge is read out from the further capacitor while the radiation incident on the photosensor already produces new charges in the storage capacitor. To this end, the control field effect transistor temporarily operates as a charge pump.

The further capacitor, being smaller than the storage capacitor, exerts a reducing effect on the switching noise of the switching field effect transistor also in the case of controlled charge transfer. Because of the temporal overlap of the charge integration across the storage capacitor and the reading out of the further capacitor, this mode of operation allows for image repeat rates which are higher than can be achieved in arrangements known thus far.

In a mode of operation of the arrangement according to the invention in conformity with the characteristics of Claim 8, the storage capacitor is effectively enlarged by the further capacitor. The presence of a given bias voltage across the photosensor element, notably a photodiode, increases the dynamic range thereof.

An embodiment of the invention will be described in detail hereinafter with reference to Fig. 1 which shows a part of a sensor matrix.

Fig. 1 shows merely a part of an arrangement according to the invention with only one radiation-sensitive sensor S. All sensors of this embodiment are provided with n-channel field effect transistors. Evidently, field effect transistors having a different construction can also be used in the context of the invention.

A matrix consists in known manner of a multitude of, for example 2000 x 2000 sensors S which are arranged in rows and columns. The respective first sensors S of a row of the matrix together form the first column whereas the respective second sensors of each row together constitute the second column, etc.

Each sensor S includes a photosensor element. When suitable semiconductors are used, the photosensor element itself may already be sensitive to X-rays. However, it may also be a light-sensitive photodiode 1 which receives light whenever X-rays are incident on a scintillator layer arranged thereabove. In the absence of a scintillator layer the arrangement is also suitable for the direct detection of light. Parallel to the terminals of the photodiode 1 there is connected a storage capacitor 2. The anode of the photodiode 1 and an electrode of the storage capacitor 2 are connected to a common electrode 9 which biases it with a negative DC voltage. The cathode of the photodiode 1 and the other electrode of the storage capacitor 2 are connected to a source terminal of a control field effect transistor 5. The drain terminal of the control field effect transistor 5 in its turn is connected to a source terminal of a switching field effect transistor 3.

When radiation is incident on the photodiode 1, charge carrier pairs (charges) are generated in the photodiode 1, with the result that the charged storage capacitor is partly discharged. The discharge is dependent on the number of photons incident on the photodiode 1. Each sensor can be individually read out by compensating the respective charge deficiency via the conductive channels of the field effect transistors 3, 5. To this end, a control line 6 and a switching line 7 are provided for each row of the sensor matrix. The switching line 7 is connected to the gate terminals of the switching field effect transistors 3 and the control line is connected to the gate terminals of the control field effect transistors 5 of the sensors S.

The switching and control lines 6, 7 thus activate the field effect transistors 3, 5 of the associated row of the matrix. They are driven, for example by means of a driver circuit which is known per se and not shown in the Figure, said driver circuit applying different analog control voltages to the lines 6, 7. The driver circuit serves to activate the rows of the sensor matrix successively in order to read out the charges stored in the sensors S.

A read-out line 8 is provided in known manner for each column of the matrix. All read-out lines 8 are connected to the drain terminals of the switching field effect transistors 3 of the sensors of the relevant column. An amplifier 11 is regularly associated with each read-out line 8, said amplifier integrating the charges row-wise flowing in the individual sensors S. The amplifiers 11 are preceded by an analog multiplexer (not shown) whose inputs are connected to the outputs of the amplifiers. The analog multiplexer converts the charges, arriving simultaneously and in parallel from each time one row of the matrix, into a serial signal which is presented on a serial output of the analog multiplexer so as to be processed further.

An electrode of a further capacitor 4 is connected to the drain terminal of the control field effect transistor 5 and the source terminal of the switching field effect transistor 3, respectively, the other electrode 4a of said further capacitor also being connected to the general electrode 9 or a general electrode which is independent therefrom. In the context of the invention it is possible to insert one or more cascode transistors in the connection between the control field effect transistor 5 and the switching field effect transistor 3 of each sensor S in order to stabilize the drain voltage across the control field effect transistor 5.

In conjunction with the control field effect transistor 5, whose gate terminal is driven via the control line 6, the further capacitor 4 enables the following modes of operation for the individual sensors S of the arrangement according to the invention:

A. Continuous charge transfer

When a suitable voltage is applied to the gate terminal of the control field effect transistor 5 via the control line 6, this transistor can operate as a charge pump. A suitable voltage is a voltage which causes the control field effect transistor 5 to operate in the saturation range. The voltage present across the photodiode 1 and the storage capacitor 2 is thus kept constant.

When radiation is incident on the photodiode 1 in this mode of operation of the sensor S, the storage capacitor 2 of the photodiode 1 is no longer discharged, but the further capacitor 4 is discharged. When the switching field effect transistor 3 is then closed for the purpose of reading out, the further capacitor 4 is charged again during the reading out of the charge via the read-out line 8.

B. Controlled charge transfer

The charge transfer from the further capacitor 4 to the storage capacitor 2 is governed by the voltage on the control line 6. On the basis of this relationship it is possible to inhibit the charge transfer described sub A in given phases of the image data acquisition by applying a negative voltage (in relation to the voltage at the source terminal) to the gate terminal of the field effect transistor 5, via the control line 6, so that the control field effect transistor 5 is turned off.

When the charge transfer is inhibited, first only the storage capacitor 2 is discharged and subsequently it is charged again from the further capacitor 4. The compensation of the charge across the further capacitor 4 via the activated switching field effect transistor 3 and the read-out line 8 can then take place when radiation is already incident again on the photodiode 1 and the capacitor 2 is discharged.

C. Increasing the storage capacitor

When a large positive voltage, in comparison with the voltage at the source terminal, is applied to the gate terminal of the control field effect transistor 5, the channel thereof becomes conductive. When this voltage is sustained, a continuous connection is established between the storage capacitor 2 and the further capacitor 4. The overall capacitance connected parallel to the photodiode 1 is thus increased by the additional capacitance 4. The dynamic range of the photodiode 1 can thus be increased for a given bias voltage.

00743656 160704

CLAIMS:

1. An arrangement which includes light-sensitive or X-ray-sensitive sensors (S) which are arranged in a matrix of rows and columns and generate charges in dependence on the amount of incident radiation, each sensor (S) including a respective photosensor element (1) with an intrinsic storage capacitance and/or a storage capacitor (2) connected parallel to the terminals thereof, as well as with a respective transistor (3), for each row of sensors there being provided at least one switching line (7) via which the transistors (3) can be activated so that the charges of the relevant activated sensors (S) can be read out simultaneously via read-out lines (8),
characterized in that
each sensor (S) includes a further transistor (5) which is connected directly to the photosensor element (1) and can be activated via at least one control line (6),
that the two transistors (3, 5) of each sensor (S) are connected in series, and
that an electrode of a further capacitor (4) is connected to the junction of the two transistors (3, 5).
2. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 1,
characterized in that
the further transistors (5) can be activated via at least one control line (6) per row of sensors or one control line for the entire matrix.
3. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 2,
characterized in that
both transistors (3, 5) of each sensor are constructed as field effect transistors whose conductive channels are connected in series, the gate terminal of the control field effect transistor (5) connected to the photosensor element (1) being connected to the control line (6) whereas the gate terminal of the series-connected switching field effect transistor (3) is connected to the switching line (7).
4. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 1 or 3,

characterized in that
the further capacitor (4) is smaller than the storage capacitor (2).

5. An arrangement as claimed in Claim 3 or 4,

characterized in that
the constituent elements of the sensor (5) are arranged one above the other and/or adjacent
one another on a thin-film substrate.

6. A method for operating an arrangement as claimed in one of the Claims 3 to 5,
characterized in that
the voltage present at the gate terminal of the control field effect transistor (5) of each sensor
(S) is chosen to be such that it keeps the voltage across the photosensor element (1) constant
and hence operates as a charge pump.

7. A method for operating an arrangement as claimed in one of the Claims 3 to 5,
characterized in that
the conductive channel of the control field effect transistor (5) of each sensor (6) is blocked
during the charge
integration in the storage capacitor (2) of the radiation incident on the photosensor element
(1), and that the charge is subsequently transferred to the further capacitor (4) by the
unblocking of the conductive channel and is subsequently read out therefrom by the
unblocking of the conductive channel of the switching field effect transistor (3).

8. A method for operating an arrangement as claimed in one of the Claims 3 to 5,
characterized in that
the voltage, present at the gate terminal of the control field effect transistor (5), of each
sensor (S) is chosen to be so high that the conductive channel thereof directly connects the
storage capacitor (2) to the further capacitor (4).

9. The use of the arrangement claimed in one of the Claims 1 to 5 in an X-ray
examination apparatus.

ABSTRACT:

The invention relates to an arrangement with light-sensitive or X-ray-sensitive sensors which are arranged in rows and columns of a matrix and generate charges in dependence on the amount of incident radiation, each sensor including a photosensor element with an intrinsic storage capacitor and/or a storage capacitor connected parallel to its terminals, and also a respective transistor; it also includes at least one switching line for each row of sensors via which the transistors can be activated so that the charges of the relevant activated sensors S can be read out simultaneously via read-out lines 8 in order to ensure that, in conformity with the relevant mode of operation of the arrangement, the switching noise caused by the reading out of the sensors is reduced and/or a higher image repeat rate or more stable operating conditions for the photosensor element, also in the case of large signals, as well as an increase of the dynamic range of the photosensor element become possible in that each sensor S includes a further transistor 5 which is connected directly to the photosensor element 1 and can be activated via at least one control line, both transistors 3, 5 of each sensor S being connected in series and an electrode of a further capacitor 4 being connected to the junction of the two transistors 3, 5.

Fig. 1

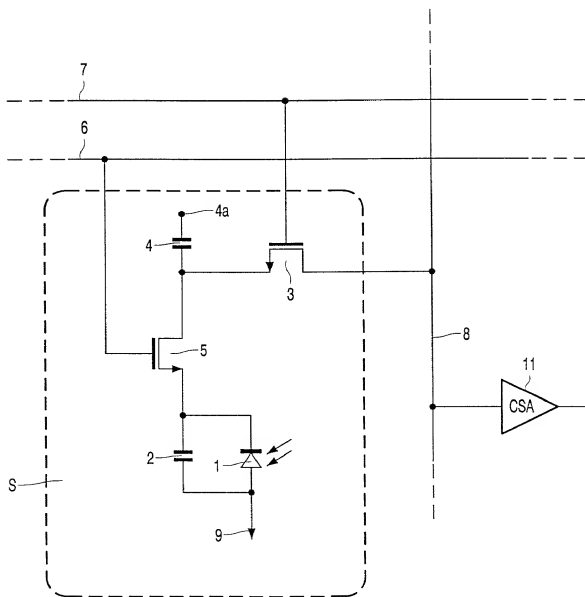
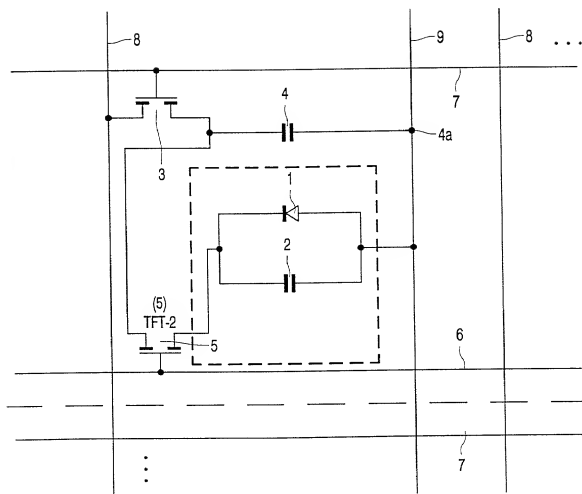
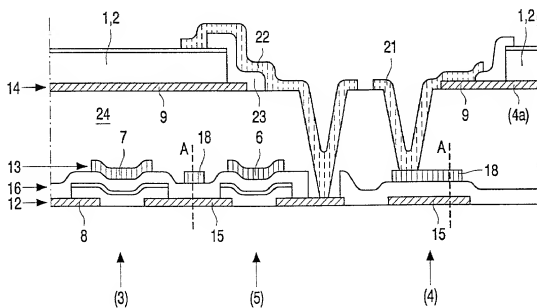


FIG. 1







COMBINED DECLARATION OF INVENTOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET
NUMBER
PHD 99.060 US

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: Sensor Matrix
the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. _____

on _____

and was amended

on _____

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/ EP00/04607

on 17 May 2000

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on _____ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING DAY, MONTH, YEAR	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Germany	19922650.4	18 May 1999	YES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)

PTO

09743656.060701

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(Include Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET
NUMBER

PHD 99.060 US

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: Sensor Matrix
the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. _____

on _____

and was amended

on _____

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number PCT/ EP00/04607

on 17 May 2000

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on _____ (if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING DAY, MONTH, YEAR	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Germany	19922650.4	18 May 1999	YES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)

COMBINED DECLARATION FOR PATENT APPLICATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
(includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

ATTORNEY'S DOCKET
NUMBER
PHD 99.060 US

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **Sensor Matrix**
the specification of which (check only one item below):

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed as United States application

Serial No. _____

on _____

and was amended

on _____

☒ was filed as PCT international application

Number **PCT/ EP00/04607**

on **17 May 2000**

and was amended under PCT Article 19

on _____

(if applicable)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, § 1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or of any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America listed below and have identified below any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate or any PCT international application(s) designating at least one country other than the United States of America filed by me on the same subject matter having a filing date before that of the application(s) of which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN/PCT APPLICATION(S) AND ANY PRIORITY CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE OF FILING DAY, MONTH, YEAR	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 USC 119
Germany	19922650.4	18 May 1999	YES

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

Algy Tamoshunas Reg. No. 27,677
Jack E. Haken, Reg. No. 26,902

Direct Telephone Calls to:
(name and telephone number)
(914)332-0222

	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
201	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	BUSSE Aachen	Falko STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	Drei-Rosen-Straße 15	CITY 52066 Aachen	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
202	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	OVERDICK	Michael	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Bonn	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	Eislebenstraße 3	CITY 53125 Bonn	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
203	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	RÜTTEN	Walter	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Linnich	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	Brunnenstraße 26	CITY 52441 Linnich	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
204	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	POWELL	Martin John	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	Horley	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY United Kingdom	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	18 Middlefield	CITY Horley, Surrey RH6 9XP	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY United Kingdom
205	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
206	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 if Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203
DATE	DATE	DATE
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 206
DATE <i>7 December 2000</i>	DATE	DATE

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

FALKO BUSSE ET AL.

PHD 99,060

Serial No.

Group Art Unit

Filed: CONCURRENTLY

Examiner:

Title: SENSOR MATRIX
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPOINTMENT OF ASSOCIATES

Sir:


The undersigned Attorney of Record hereby revokes all prior appointments (if any) of Associate Attorney(s) or Agent(s) in the above-captioned case and appoints:

JOHN VODOPIA**(Registration No. 36,299)** and**MICHAEL E. MARION****(Registration No. 32,266)**

c/o U.S. PHILIPS CORPORATION, Intellectual Property Department, 580 White Plains Road, Tarrytown, New York 10591, his Associate Attorney(s)/Agent(s) with all the usual powers to prosecute the above-identified application and any division or continuation thereof, to make alterations and amendments therein, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

ALL CORRESPONDENCE CONCERNING THIS APPLICATION AND THE LETTERS PATENT WHEN GRANTED SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE UNDERSIGNED ATTORNEY OF RECORD.

Respectfully,



Jack E. Haken, Reg. 26,902
Attorney of Record

Dated at Tarrytown, New York
this 8TH day of January 2001.

Combined Declaration For Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
(includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorneys Docket Number
PHD 99.060 US

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

Algy Tamoshunas Reg. No. 27,677
Jack E. Haken, Reg. No. 26,902

Direct Telephone Calls to:
(name and telephone number)
(914)332-0222

101	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR BUSSE	FAMILY NAME BUSSE	FIRST GIVEN NAME Falko	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP Aachen	CITY Aachen	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Drei-Rosen-Straße 15	CITY 52066 Aachen	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany	
202	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR OVERDICK	FAMILY NAME OVERDICK	FIRST GIVEN NAME Michael	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP Bonn	CITY Bonn	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Eislebenstraße 3	CITY 53125 Bonn	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany	
203	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RÜTTEN	FAMILY NAME RÜTTEN	FIRST GIVEN NAME Walter	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP Linnich	CITY Linnich	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Brunnenstraße 26	CITY 52441 Linnich	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany	
204	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR POWELL	FAMILY NAME POWELL	FIRST GIVEN NAME Martin John	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP Horley	CITY Horley	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY United Kingdom	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP United Kingdom
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 18 Middlefield	CITY Horley, Surrey RH6 9XP	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY United Kingdom	
205	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
206	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECOND GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 if Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201 <i>Falko Busse</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202 <i>Michael Overdick</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203 <i>Walter Ruten</i>
DATE 7 December 2000	DATE 7 December 2000	DATE 7 December 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 206
DATE	DATE	DATE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE- Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)



Combined Declaration For Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
(Includes Reference to PCT International Applications)

Attorneys Docket Number
PHD 99-060 US

POWER OF ATTORNEY: I, the undersigned inventor, hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute the application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

Algy Tamoshunas Reg. No. 27,677
Jack E. Haken, Reg. No. 26,902

Direct Telephone Calls to:
(name and telephone number)
(914)332-0222

201	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME BUSSE CITY Aachen POST OFFICE ADDRESS Drei-Rosen-Straße 15	FIRST GIVEN NAME Falko STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany CITY 52068 Aachen	SECONDE GIVEN NAME Germany STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
202	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME OVERDICK CITY Bonn POST OFFICE ADDRESS Eislebenstraße 3	FIRST GIVEN NAME Michael STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany CITY 53125 Bonn	SECONDE GIVEN NAME Germany STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
203	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME RÜTTEN CITY Linnich POST OFFICE ADDRESS Brunnenstraße 26	FIRST GIVEN NAME Walter STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany CITY 52441 Linnich	SECONDE GIVEN NAME Germany STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
204	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME POWELL CITY Horley POST OFFICE ADDRESS 18 Middlefield	FIRST GIVEN NAME Martin STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY United Kingdom CITY Horley, Surrey RH6 9XP	SECONDE GIVEN NAME John COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Great Britain STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY United Kingdom
205	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME CITY POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FIRST GIVEN NAME STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY CITY	SECONDE GIVEN NAME COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
206	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FAMILY NAME CITY POST OFFICE ADDRESS	FIRST GIVEN NAME STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY CITY	SECONDE GIVEN NAME COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203
DATE	DATE	DATE
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 206
DATE 7 December 2000 8/5/01	DATE 8/05/01	DATE

PTO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE - Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)

09743657-060701



Combined Declaration For Patent Application and Power of Attorney (Continued)
(Includes References to PCT International Applications)

Attorneys Docket Number
PHD 99.060 US

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (List name and registration number)

Algy Tamoshunas Reg. No. 27,677
Jack E. Haken, Reg. No. 26,902

Direct Telephone Calls to:
(name and telephone number)
(914)332-0222

201	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME BUSSE	FIRST GIVEN NAME Falko	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Aachen	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Drei-Rosen-Straße 15	CITY 52066 Aachen	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
202	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME OVERDICK	FIRST GIVEN NAME Michael	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Bonn	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Eislebenstraße 3	CITY 53125 Bonn	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
203	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME RÜTTEN	FIRST GIVEN NAME Walter	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Linnich	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY Germany	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP Germany
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS Brunnenstraße 26	CITY 52441 Linnich	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY Germany
204	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME POWELL	FIRST GIVEN NAME Martin John	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY Horley	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY United Kingdom	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS 18 Middlefield	CITY Horley, Surrey RH6 9XP	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY United Kingdom
205	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY
206	FULL NAME OF INVENTOR	FAMILY NAME	FIRST GIVEN NAME	SECONDE GIVEN NAME
	RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP	CITY	STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY	COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP
	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	POST OFFICE ADDRESS	CITY	STATE & ZIP CODE/COUNTRY

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 201 <i>Falko Busse</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 202 <i>Michael Overdick</i>	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 203 <i>Walter Rütten</i>
DATE 7 December 2000	DATE 7 December 2000	DATE 7 December 2000
SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 204	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 205	SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR 206
DATE	DATE	DATE

PTO

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE- Patent and Trademarks Office
(July 1994)

09743656-060701